

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1, 14 and 15 are cancelled and claims 2 to 13 are amended and claim 16 is added so that the claims are now as follows:

1. (Cancelled).

2. (Currently Amended) ~~The vibration damper of claim 1, wherein A vibration damper for mounting between first and second components of a portable handheld work apparatus, the vibration damper comprising:~~

5 ~~a coil spring defining a longitudinal center axis and having first and second end portions;~~

~~first and second attachment elements;~~

~~said coil spring being securely attached at said first end portion with said first attachment element to said first component;~~

~~said coil spring being securely attached at said second end portion with said second attachment element to said second component;~~

15 ~~said first end portion of said coil spring having several first turns and said second end portion of said coil spring~~

having several second turns;

said first end portion form-tightly engaging said first attachment element with at least a part of one of said first turns in the direction of said longitudinal center axis;

20 said second end portion form-tightly engaging said second attachment element with at least a part of one of said second turns in the direction of said longitudinal center axis;

25 said first and second attachment elements being disposed approximately on said longitudinal center axis and lying at a distance axially opposite each other; and,

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25 a coupling member extending through said coil spring to bridge said distance and said coupling member being connected to said first and second attachment elements so as to prevent said coupling member from separating therefrom;

30 said attachment elements have having respective edges; and,
 said coupling member includes including a rope having first and second ends; first and second holders arranged on said rope in the region of respective ends of said rope; and, said first and second holders having respective end faces directed toward each other and form-tightly engaging behind said edges, respectively.

3. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 2, wherein said rope is an essentially thrust stiff rope.

4. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 3, wherein said rope is a steel rope.

5. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 2, wherein the length of said rope between said first and second attachment elements is greater than the distance between said edges of said attachment elements.

6. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 5, wherein said length of said rope is greater than the length of said coil spring.

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7. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 5, said first and second attachment elements having first and second cylindrically-shaped receptacle sections, respectively; and, said holders being disposed in corresponding ones of said receptacle sections with slight radial play.

8. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 7, at least one of said attachment elements having a slot extending radially from the receptacle section thereof to the peripheral edge of said one attachment element.

9. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 7, wherein each of said receptacle sections has an axial length and each of said holders has an axial length; and, the axial length of each of said receptacle sections is greater than the axial length of the holder corresponding thereto.

10. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 9, wherein said first holder has a maximum outer diameter lesser than the maximum

outer diameter of said second holder.

11. (Original) The vibration damper of claim 10, wherein said second attachment element has an approximately central through opening extending from the base of said second receptacle section; and, said through opening has a diameter somewhat greater than the maximum diameter of said first holder.

12. (Currently Amended) The vibration damper of ~~claim 1~~
~~claim 2~~, wherein said coupling member is mounted approximately centric to said longitudinal center axis.

13. (Currently Amended) The vibration damper of ~~claim 1~~
~~claim 2~~, wherein said coupling member is mounted at a radial distance from said longitudinal center axis.

Claims 14 and 15 (Cancelled).

16. (New) A work apparatus comprising:
an internal combustion engine;
a housing for accommodating said internal combustion engine;
a handle for holding and guiding said apparatus;
said housing defining a first component and said handle defining a second component; and,
a vibration damper mounted between said first and second components; and,
said vibration damper including:
a coil spring defining a longitudinal center axis and

having first and second end portions;

first and second attachment elements;

, said coil spring being securely attached at said first end portion with said first attachment element to said first component;

said coil spring being securely attached at said second end portion with said second attachment element to said second component;

said first end portion of said coil spring having several first turns and said second end portion of said coil spring having several second turns;

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said first end portion form-tightly engaging said first attachment element with at least a part of one of said first turns in the direction of said longitudinal center axis;

said second end portion form-tightly engaging said second attachment element with at least a part of one of said second turns in the direction of said longitudinal center axis;

said first and second attachment elements being disposed approximately on said longitudinal center axis and lying at a distance axially opposite each other; and,

a coupling member extending through said coil spring to bridge said distance and said coupling member being connected to said first and second attachment elements so as to prevent said coupling member from separating therefrom.